

GRAND CANYON LODGE
Grand Canyon National Park
North Rim
Grand Canyon National Park
Coconino County
Arizona

HABS No. AZ-135

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
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Washington, DC 20240

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Location: Grand Canyon National Park, North Rim
Coconino County, Arizona
UTM Reference: 12/405350/4006175

Present Owner: United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service (Western Region)
600 Harrison Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, California 94102

Present Occupant: TWA Services, Inc.

Present Use: Lodge, including dining room

Significance: Grand Canyon Lodge, consisting of the main lodge building, 100 "standard" or "budget" and 20 "deluxe" cabins, was designed by master American architect, Gilbert Stanley Underwood in 1927. The main lodge and two cabins burned in 1932; the lodge was rebuilt in 1936-37 in a modified design, using some of the original stonework. The lodge is of regional architectural significance as an outstanding example of the "rustic" style of architecture, intended to harmonize with both setting and environment, and as one of the very few major "rustic" hostels in the State of Arizona. It was Stephen T. Mather, first director of the National Park Service who persuaded the Union Pacific Railroad management to undertake the development of park lands in southern Utah as well as the North Rim of the Grand Canyon.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of Erection: The construction of the Grand Canyon Lodge Complex began during the fall and winter of 1927-28. It was completed in early 1928, and opened in time for that summer's tourist season, the dedication being held on September 15, 1928. At the time of its dedication, the complex comprised the Main Lodge building, 20 deluxe cabins, and 100 standard or regular cabins. An additional five deluxe quadruplex cabins were constructed sometime between 1928 and 1932.

On September 1, 1932, a fire completely razed the Lodge and the two deluxe cabins closest to it. Because the country was in the midst of the Depression reconstruction did not begin until June 6, 1936. The lodge reopened for business less than a year later, on June 1, 1937.

2. Architect: The lodge complex was designed by an architect who at the time was not a particularly well-known figure in American architecture. Gilbert Stanley Underwood (1890-1960), however, had designed a number of noteworthy buildings using the newly conceived "rustic" architectural style, a style almost singularly suited for its application in the national parks. This style emphasizes the harmony between a structure and its natural setting and the structure's ability to blend into its surrounding environment. The Grand Canyon Lodge is one of the best and most authentic examples of the rustic style.

Underwood began his architectural apprenticeship in the Los Angeles area. He started his formal education at the University of Illinois (Champaign - Urbana) in 1912, and received his B.A. eight years later from Yale. During the interregnum period he also studied at the Universities of Minnesota and Michigan. He received his M.A. from Harvard in 1922. During his schooling Underwood had continued to work in architectural offices and in 1923 he began a private practice in Los Angeles. Although his practice was only recently established, Underwood was recommended by Stephen T. Mather, the first Director of the National Park Service, to the several railroad interests that were developing National Park lands. Underwood was almost immediately commissioned to undertake a number of projects in the rustic mode, including the Lodges at Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park in 1923 and 1924, and the Ahwahnee Hotel in the Yosemite Valley. He began the design for the Grand Canyon Lodge in 1927.

Underwood continued to work in private practice until 1934, when he began what would become a twenty-year career in Government service. He began initially as Consulting Architect to the Treasury Department and climbed to the position of U.S. Supervisory Architect under the Federal Works Agency and the General Services Administration. During his government career he worked on a number of government projects in a variety of architectural styles, including rustic. He also was known to moonlight out of his residence, where he designed a number of projects including the Timberline Lodge at Mount Hood, Oregon, and the Sun Valley Lodge in Ketchum, Idaho. Underwood retired in 1954.

3. Original and Subsequent Owners: The original owner and builder of the Grand Canyon Lodge complex was the Utah Parks Company, a subsidiary of the Union Pacific Railway. This company owned and operated the Lodge until 1971, when the Union Pacific halted passenger service. Without passengers there was no longer a need to maintain destination hotels as an attraction to rail travelers. Union Pacific donated the Grand Canyon Lodge, as well as Utah Parks Company facilities at Zion, Bryce Canyon, Cedar Breaks, and Cedar City, to the National Park Service in March 1972. Since that time the Park Service has contracted the management of the Lodge to a concessioner.

4. Builder, Contractor, Suppliers: The Utah Parks Company conducted the Lodge's construction. Both the rustic architectural design and the isolated area in which the Lodge was being constructed required the use of materials native to the region. It was therefore necessary to construct both a saw mill and a rock crusher on the site. The two main materials used were Kaibab limestone drawn from a nearby quarry, and Western Yellow pine (Ponderosa Pine) cut from the Kaibab Forest.

The reconstruction of the Lodge following the 1932 fire was conducted by the Ryberg Brothers of Salt Lake City. Presumably because of the fire, the new plans called for much less wood and more stone. The original foundation was nonetheless used, as was much of the original and undamaged limestone.

5. Original Plans and Construction: Documentation concerning the construction of the Grand Canyon Lodge is located both at the National Archives and in records kept by the Union Pacific Railroad. Original architectural drawings do not exist.

6. Alteration and Additions: The original Grand Canyon Lodge stood only five years. Its replacement retained much of the

basic layout, as it was placed on the original foundation, but it also differed in a number of significant ways. Whether or not Underwood contributed to the design of the new building is in question, but the evidence seems to indicate that he did not.

In general terms, the layout of the first floor, the material used in construction and the type of decorative elements remained constant. The primary alterations lay in how the building materials were used, the massing of the building, and the design of the interior space. The three story stone observation tower was eliminated, as was the second story of the recreation room. There was also a major change in the roof structure, which was redesigned with a steeper pitch, presumably to accommodate the heavy snowfall of the winter months. This alteration created a much "simpler, horizontal quality in place of the complex, stairstep character of Underwoods' design."

Since the second lodge's completion in June 1937, the comparatively few alterations and additions have been undertaken primarily for maintenance or rehabilitation purposes. There have been a number of alterations dealing with the cabins, however.

In 1931 a cabin was converted to an aid station, one half housing a resident nurse and the other half used for treatment of the injured or ill. Because of the elimination of bath facilities in the reconstructed Lodge, it was also necessary to alter cabins to serve as bath houses; one was converted in 1934 and a second in 1936. A decision was later made to add bathrooms to all standard (budget) cabins; by 1959, or perhaps as early as 1954, this was completed. The bath houses were then reconverted to rental units in 1960. In 1973 two comfort stations were converted to employee quarters. The deluxe cabins also received periodic maintenance and rehabilitation. Rehabilitation of the Grand Canyon Lodge and cabin complex was carried out during 1985, 1986, and 1987. Work was funded through the National Park Association's Visitor Facility Fund and conducted under contract with the D. L. Norton Construction Company, from Phoenix. In the Lodge, work included installation of fire alarms, a fire sprinkler system with a water reservoir, three wheelchair lifts and handicap access ramps, as well as reroofing, log repair, reching and reoiling, and rehabilitation of the lighting and boiler. Work in the cabin area included reroofing, log repair, reching and reoiling, sidewalk rehabilitation, and handicap access to several cabins. Five of the standard (budget) cabins were removed to provide emergency vehicle access in an unpaved right-of-way through the center of the cluster.

B. Historical Context

The Grand Canyon had been made a National Monument administered by the U.S. Forest Service in 1908, and was established by Congress as a National Park in 1919 under the newly-created National Park Service. It was a well known tourist attraction, having been promoted from the south by the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad and its successor, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway for nearly a third of a century. A Santa Fe Railway branch line reached the South Rim in 1901 and the railroad built a massive, elegant, rustic hotel there.

But the North Rim remained remote and undeveloped. There were few good roads in southern Utah, and the whole narrow band of Northern Arizona land north of the Colorado River, known as the Arizona Strip, was almost entirely cut off from the rest of the state by the Grand Canyon and the turbulent Colorado River. Topographically, economically, and functionally, the Arizona Strip was more a part of Utah than of Arizona, so development of the North Rim of the Canyon awaited development of southern Utah.

In November 1919, National Park Service Director Stephen Mather paid his first visit to Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks. Driving from Salt Lake City, he found the roads execrable, little better in some instances than Paiute Indian trails. Mather went on to Zion; whether on this trip he visited the North Rim of the Canyon is unclear. At the time, only tent camps which offered "nothing that would have impressed a second-class Boy Scout" were all the accommodations that existed at Zion and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, established in 1916 by Yellowstone concessioner W.W. Wylie. Mather then went to the management of the Union Pacific Railroad and convinced them to undertake tourist development of southern Utah and the Arizona Strip which the railroad did by: (1) building a branch rail line from Lund on the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake to Cedar City; (2) buying out the Wylie interests and the new Escalante Hotel in Cedar City and establishing the Utah Parks Company in 1923 to operate it and to build new lodges at Zion, Bryce, and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon; and (3) promoting paved auto roads throughout this region to make these parks accessible from the railroad to build lodges with cabins rather than single unit hotels which included all accommodations in the main building. The Zion and Bryce lodges were built first, being nearer to the railroad at Cedar City, and it was not until the fall of 1927 that the Utah Parks Company subsidiary of the Union Pacific Railroad undertook construction of Grand Canyon Lodge.

(It should be noted that of the two earlier lodges, the main building at Zion burned in 1966 and was replaced with a modern

structure, and the small original lodge at Bryce Canyon subsequently was remodeled with the addition of two extensive wings. Of the three today, Grand Canyon Lodge, always the most important and architecturally the most distinguished of the Utah Parks Company lodges, has the greatest integrity.)

Actual construction of Grand Canyon Lodge took place through the fall and winter of 1927-1928 and involved unusual difficulties and hardship for the workmen. The North Rim facilities are, even more than a half century later, closed down during the winter months due to the severity of North Rim winters and the depth of snowfall, yet the Lodge was built throughout one of the those winters. Due to its remoteness, located in a largely undeveloped wilderness, construction crews had to set up a sawmill and a rock crusher near the site, and they used native limestone and Kaibab Ponderosa pine timber in construction of the lodge. It was necessary to employ a large rotary snowplow, propelled by a twenty-ton military surplus tank, to keep the road open to the outside.

The completed lodge with its "regular" ("budget") and "deluxe" cabins opened to the public for the summer season of 1928. At that time there were twenty "deluxe" duplex cabins and sixty-six "regular" cabins, but by the end of the summer the number of the latter had climbed to a hundred, so construction of the "regular" cabins apparently continued throughout the season.

From the beginning, the Union Pacific Railroad promoted and advertised its new developments widely, but generally as a package including Zion, Bryce, and the North Rim. As early as May 1927, the Union Pacific published a booklet of 56 pages which, with two major changes in format (1936 and after World War II), and except for the war years (1942-1945), was issued in new editions almost yearly from 1928 through the 1960's. By this booklet and a series of additional folders, brochures, and advertisements, Grand Canyon Lodge, and of course the magnificent scenery of the North Rim of the Canyon which its presence made more accessible to the traveling public, drew tourists from afar, especially from territory stretching from Omaha and Kansas City to Denver, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles and Portland, and all the intermediate country served by the Union Pacific, as well as the rest of the Nation. The high degree of advertising and promotional efforts in the next forty years prior to the creation of Amtrak in 1971 is one measure of the significance of the Lodge as a major "destination resort" and a major hotel of a unique variation of "rustic" style, comparable in importance to the Ahwahnee in Yosemite National Park, Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone National Park, Many Glacier and the Glacier Park Hotel at Glacier National Park, and El Tovar on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. The architectural distinction of the main building was noted in 1929 in Union Pacific literature:

So cunningly have the architects planned this remarkable building that it seems to have sprung full-grown from the canyon wall itself. The terrace, lower structure, and observation tower have been built of stone carefully selected to blend into the canyon walls that support the lodge. The superstructure is of logs hewn from the Kaibab Forest that surrounds Bright Angel Point.

The deluxe cabins similarly featured split pine logs and native limestone in their design, while the "regular" cabins were true log cabins of peeled, notched logs on native limestone foundations. All harmonized well with the dense Kaibab Forest of the North Rim and the buff-colored limestone on which it stood.

All of the buildings related extremely well to the topography as well as to one another. While the use of natural material was a key contribution to this achievement, equally important was the natural siting of the buildings, the orientation of both individual buildings and groups often following contour lines and taking advantage of indigenous vistas. Diverse types of spaces were left between the cabins. In some cases the buildings are located close together with little space between them, but an entirely different kind and size of space always seemed to be just beyond the next structure, contrasting, sometimes dramatically, sometimes subtly, with the earlier space. Both deluxe and standard (budget) cabins were extremely well integrated into their immediate physical environment, and the quality of this integration and the space relationships is an important aspect of their architectural significance.

On September 1, 1932, a fire which apparently began in the basement destroyed the main building of Grand Canyon Lodge and two of the immediately adjacent deluxe cabins. Of the original lodge, all that was left standing were the stone foundation, terraces, stone stairway, outdoor fireplace, and parts of the stone walls. This occurred in the depths of the Great Depression, and the Union Pacific Railroad was not ready to reconstruct so major a building until the Nation's economy showed signs of recovery. Nevertheless, Grand Canyon Lodge continued in operation without its main building. For the 1933 season, the Utah Parks Company built a temporary registration office and dining room north of the "standard" cabins. But it was not until June 6, 1936, with Park visitation climbing and the Nation's economy showing signs of recovery, that the railroad undertook reconstruction of the main lodge. The reconstructed \$250,000 main lodge closely approximated the original 1928 structure in plan and in architectural detail, and even used much of the original stonework of 1928 where it was not cracked or spalled or weakened by the heat of the fire. Some of the original wrought iron fixtures may also have been reusable. Construction again proceeded through the winter, until storms of

unusual severity brought it to a halt and employees had to be rescued in February 1937. Nevertheless, the new lodge was opened in June 1, 1937.

Grand Canyon Lodge has continued in operation during summer months ever since its construction in 1928 except for the war years, 1942 through 1945, when it was closed along with many other National Park concessions nationwide in support of the war effort. It continued to be operated by the Utah Parks Company subordinate to the Union Pacific Railroad until rail passenger traffic on the Union Pacific was discontinued by the company and taken over by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) in 1971. At that point suddenly out of the passenger traffic business which it had managed so well for 102 years, the Union Pacific no longer had a need to maintain park hotels as an attraction to rail travelers, and in March 1972 donated the old Utah Parks Company facilities at Grand Canyon, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Cedar Breaks, and Cedar City to the National Park Service. The National Park Service subsequently signed in 1973 a ten year contract with TWA Industries, a conglomerate associated with Trans World Airlines, for management of the concession.

(Note: Data contained in the Historical Information section were excerpted from the National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1981).

Part I, Historical Information, prepared by:
Michael McCarthy
Intern, National Park Service, Western Regional Office
October 1987

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. **Architectural Merit and Interest:** This building, with its cabins, forms a harmonious complex of buildings of rustic architecture and blends with its environment.

2. **Condition of Fabric:** Good

B. Description of Exterior

1. **Overall Dimensions:** This U-shaped, seven bay, multi-level building with partial basement, is approximately 225 feet wide by 250 feet long.

2. **Foundation:** Native kaibab limestone with log girders, sawn wood joists and stone piers. Cast iron foundation vents. There is a crawl space under the recreation room, lobby and dining room.

3. **Wall Construction:** Load-bearing stone walls with peeled logs as infill material. Gable-ends have vertical log infill except on west gable end of dining room, which has horizontal log infill.

4. **Structural System:** Steel Howe trusses in the lobby and recreation room and a parallel Howe truss in the lobby at the intersection of gables; steel purlins and beams; all the trusses, beams, and purlins are encased with peeled log slabs to appear as whole log members. Trusses in the recreation room have wooden bracket supports at the wall. Joints of all trusses have decorative black wrought iron straps.

5. **Porches, Stoops, Bulkheads, etc.:** There is a U-shaped verandah that extends across the main entrance on each side. At the main entrance a gable projects over the verandah with an exposed log Howe truss on the gable end. Hanging from the large log bottom chord is a wooden sign with metal letters "Grand Canyon Lodge". The log rafters and V-grooved tongue-and-groove sheathing are exposed on the verandah ceilings. Shed roofs covering the verandah and the gable roof over the main entrance have wooden shingles, painted dark green. On each side of the gable there is a large, stepped stone mass, with a large wrought iron wall-hung lighting fixture. The west side of the verandah has large log columns and stone pilasters supporting the large log beams. At the north end of the verandah, there are ten stone steps, with an iron-pipe handrail on each side, leading down to the service

drive. There are eight stone steps across the east end of the front verandah leading up to the east verandah, with an iron-pipe rail in the center and a stepped-stone rail on the north side of the steps. The railing between the large log columns has a log top and bottom rail with log balusters. At the north end of the east verandah there are six stone steps with an iron-pipe railing on each side, leading down to a flagstone sidewalk. There is a gable over the north end of the east verandah extending out from the curio shop. The gable end has horizontal logs with white mortar chinking and a wooden louvre vent. There are wall mounted black wrought iron light fixtures on the east verandah. All verandahs have flagstone flooring. The breezeway between the recreation room and saloon extends at right angles east of the east verandah. The breezeway gets wider at its east end and has one stone step leading down to a concrete sidewalk. The ceiling of the breezeway has V-groove wooden planks.

There is a large flagstone terrace on the south side of the recreation room and east of the sunroom. There is a stone railing extending between stone pilasters along the south edge. Along the east edge there is a stone retaining wall, and stone steps leading to the cabins and trails. A large stone staircase with sloping stone railing and seventeen stone steps leads up to a stone landing opening into the recreation room.

On the west side of the sun room there is a flagstone terrace with stone railings between stone pilasters. A lower level of the terrace is five steps lower with an iron-pipe handrail in the center of the steps. At the northeast corner of the upper terrace there are four stone steps leading to the dining room. The lower terrace has a concrete floor. The terraces are sitting on top of stone retaining walls on the rim of the canyon.

Beneath the sun room in the south there is a pavilion called the "Moon Room". It is reached by eighteen curving stone steps from the path below the east terrace. The canted bay has a large opening in the south and west sides with three vertical slots below the opening. A doorway entrance is on the east side at the head of the steps. There is a flagstone floor and exposed sawn wooden joists and decking on the ceiling.

There is a loading dock across the north side of the kitchen. Six concrete steps, with an iron-pipe railing, on the west end lead up to the dock. The dock has a concrete floor and a wooden bumper on the outer edge.

6. Chimneys: There is a large stone chimney projecting through the roof at the northeast corner of the sunroom. The chimney extends from a large stone fireplace in the northwest corner of the east terrace and the fireplace in the northeast corner of the sunroom. The large fireplace across the corner of the terrace has a large opening approximately six feet high by ten feet wide with a large raised stone hearth across the entire corner. Above the opening the stone is reverse corbeled, forming ledges ending in a sloping triangular plane at the top. Across the opening there is a pair of large, iron-framed mesh firescreens, fastened to each side with metal strap hinges. There is a pair of large metal andirons of an Indian motif.

There is a large stone chimney projecting through the roof on the south side of the gable over the kitchen wing. It has a metal birdscreen on the top. Adjacent to the chimney is a large bell exhaust fan from the kitchen. In the southeast corner of the kitchen wing there is a large stone chimney projecting from the building and extending from the ground up above the roof.

There is a metal birdscreen on the top.

There are two metal turbine ventilators on the gable over the kitchen.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and Doors: The main entrance to the lobby is from the north side of the verandah. In the center there is a double doorway with a large log jamb on each side and a single doorway each side of the log jamb. Above each single door there is a nine-light transom and above the double door there is an eighteen-light transom. A large log mullion separates the doors and transoms and there is a large log head above the transoms. A steel lintel supports the stone across the opening. There is a wooden surround on each door, wooden sills, and metal threshold. Each wooden door is French-style, with six lights and the center double doorway has wooden-framed screen doors on the interior. The hardware on the center doors is wrought iron latchsets and pulls.

Entrance to the toilets is through a doorway from the west veranda. The doorway has a wooden surround, wooden flush panel door with a four-light glass panel in the upper part, stone sill and a six-light casement transom sash with wooden-framed screen panel.

Doorways from the recreation room and dining room have wooden surrounds, stone sill, wooden threshold, and an eight-light transom sash above, separated by a large log mullion. The double wooden French doors have a single glass panel approximately three-quarters of the length, and the lower quarter is a recessed wooden panel.

A double entrance to the saloon from the breezeway has wooden surrounds, wooden sill and threshold, and a ten-light casement sash separated by a large log mullion. There is a large window each side of the doorway. There are eight glass panels in the wooden-framed French door. There is also a single French door, the same as the double door, to the left of the window.

From the west verandah there is a double opening into the buffeteria, with bronze-color aluminum-framed single-light panel doors, bronze-color aluminum surround and aluminum threshold.

Doorways in the raised basement have wooden surrounds and wooden doors that have vertical planks on the exterior and a frame with diagonal brace on the interior.

Other exterior doorways have wooden surrounds, wooden sills and thresholds, and flush-panel, vertical plank wooden doors with a four-light glass panel in the upper portion. There is a transom above separated by a large log mullion.

From the loading dock there is a double doorway leading into the kitchen. The doorway has metal surrounds with metal flush panel doors. The doors each have a single-light wire glass panel in the upper portion. There is a large log mullion between the door and a six-light transom. The transom has a wooden-framed screen, painted dark green.

A large opening on the east and west walls of the sun room open on to the east and west terraces, respectively. There is a double doorway in the center of the opening, framed on each side by a large log mullion; and on each side of the mullion is a sidelight. The wooden doors have a single-light, full-length glass panel, as do the sidelights, with a small recessed wooden panel across the bottom. There is a single transom panel above the doorway and each sidelight, separated by a large log mullion at the head of the doors. A wide stone step extends the width of the opening and there is a stone sill and metal threshold. There is horizontal log infill

above the openings.

b. Windows and Shutters: Wooden windows have six-light casement sashes and six-over-six, double-hung sashes, most with wooden-framed screens. Casement windows are in-swinging with screens on the exterior. There are wooden louvers in the gable ends. There is a large aluminum-framed plate glass window in the curio shop and saloon.

The window in the post office has a six-over-six, double-hung sash with wooden surrounds and an iron grille on the exterior. Below the window shelf there is a wooden panel with wooden threshold and sill.

Wooden windows on each side of the saloon door have eight-over-eight, double-hung sashes with wooden surrounds and wooden-framed screens.

Wooden windows in the recreation room have a large fixed-light center panel and a single-light casement sash on each side. There is a fixed transom panel above the center panel and a single-light transom above each side casement sash. There is a large log mullion between the sashes and the transoms. The casement sashes have wooden-framed screens on the exterior. Across the entire opening is a large metal rolling shutter for winterizing the windows. Windows in the dining room are identical, with the exception that in the lower panels the three wooden sashes have been replaced with two large, aluminum-framed plate glass sashes. Windows in the sun room have aluminum, large single-light fixed sashes. There is a large metal rolling shutter across the entire opening on the exterior. Windows in stone walls have stone sills on the interior and exterior.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, Covering: The main entrance has a gabled roof and a shed roof on either side, turning and extending along each wing of the U-shaped building. A gable roof extends over the west wing and east wing, with a small intersecting gable at the north end of the east wing. There is a gable roof over the recreation room and dining room, intersecting the main gable over the lobby. There is a hipped roof over the stage at the east end of the recreation room. The sun room has a hipped roof. All roofs are covered with wooden shingles painted a dark green.

b. Cornice, Eaves: Open eaves with exposed log rafter ends.

c. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers: There is a shed dormer in the center of the south slope of the gable on both the recreation room and dining room. Each dormer has three windows in the south face. The sides of the dormer are covered with wooden shingles, as well as the roof.

C. Description of the Interior

1. Floor Plans:

a. Basement: There is a basement under the kitchen wing on the west that houses the furnace and storage rooms. A raised basement is under the buffeteria and toilets, housing storage room, with doorways opening onto the service yard. Under the canted bay of the sun room is an observation room, called the "Moon Room," which has a doorway on the east face and a large opening on the south and west faces.

b. First Floor: The main entrance on the north facade opens into the large lobby. In the southeast corner of the lobby there is the registration desk. Behind the desk, separated by wooden paneled partitions, is a small office and cashier station. The small office has a double casement window on the east wall. Along the north wall there is a large stone pilaster. To the right of the entrance and beyond the pilaster there are two double casement windows. A large stone mass which is the back of the fireplace projects into the lobby on the south end of the registration desk. In the center of the east wall, there are five steps leading up to a double door entering into the recreation room. Above the doorway in the gable end there is a wooden louver. The recreation room is a large rectangular hall with a proscenium stage across the east end. The stage, which is thrust into the hall, has steps on each end leading up to it. There is one log step parallel to the stage leading to a landing, then turning at right angles and up two steps to the stage. The two steps have a log railing on one side extending between a log newel at the top and bottom, with a diagonal log between the newels. Across the front of the stage there is a galvanized sheet metal footlight trough. There are three windows across the east face of the stage, a single window on the south wall and a doorway to the breezeway on the north wall. The flat proscenium arch is log with knee braces resting on a

stone haunch each side. Along the south wall of the recreation room there are three large windows and at the west end of the wall there is a double doorway leading to a landing that goes down to the east Terrace.

There is a large opening under the main gable in the lobby that opens into the sunken sun room. On the north and south gable ends of the lobby, near the ridge, there is a double window. The opening has a log railing extending across it from the east side towards the west, turning at a right angle, and extending around the stair opening. The steps, in the southwest corner, lead down into the sun room. The sunroom has a large stone fireplace across the northeast corner. The fireplace has a large stone ledge on each side along the walls, stepping in twice along the wall at a height of approximately ten feet in height, forming a shelf on the top. Between these projections, across the corner at a lower level, is a stone mantel shelf. The raised stone hearth extends across the corner between these projections. There is a large metal-framed fitted firescreen across the opening. The south wall of the sun room has a canted bay with a very large window in each face. Along the east and west wall, there is a large opening leading to the east and west terraces, respectively.

In the center of the west wall of the lobby there is a large opening leading down eight steps into the dining room. The dining room, which extends across the west end, has three large windows along the west wall and three large windows and a doorway along the south wall. The double doorway at the east end of the wall, leads to the west terrace. Along the north wall there are two high casement windows. In the high ceiling space there is a dormer window along the south face. Near the center of the north wall there are two doors, side by side, leading into the kitchen. The kitchen has four windows along the east wall, and two windows along the west wall. On the east side of the doorways from the dining room there is a small storage room housing the hot water heater. On the west side there is a small pantry with a toilet at the west end. Near the northeast corner of the kitchen there are six steps leading up to the buffeteria. Along the north wall, there is a double opening leading onto the deck. The deck has a doorway on the east leading into the chef's office and storeroom. Along the west wall of the deck there are two doorways, leading respectively to a toilet and a storeroom. In the northwest corner of the deck there are six steps leading

down to a landing, which has steps leading down to the basement.

The buffeteria is in the west wing. There are two windows along the west wall and two windows along the east wall. Two doors, side-by-side, on the east wall lead out to the verandah. Across the north end of the west wing there are men's and women's toilets.

The east wing houses the curio shop, post office, saloon, and accounting office. The saloon opens from the breezeway on the south end of the east wing. The saloon is an L-shaped room with a large plate glass window on the west wall and a window each side of the double doorway on the south wall. There is a dutch doorway on the west wall of the L in the saloon that opens into the post office. The small post office has a window on the west wall. A doorway from the breezeway on the south opens into the post office. The small post office has a window on the west wall. A doorway from the breezeway on the south opens into a two-room suite, which are the accounting offices, behind the saloon on the east. The north end of the east wing houses the curio shop. The doorway on the west wall leads from the verandah. There are three high windows along the north wall and three high windows along the east wall. There is a small room with storeroom across the east side of the curio shop. A large plate glass window is on the west wall of the curio shop, opening out to the verandah.

2. Stairways: The open-string log steps leading from the lobby up to the recreation room have a log railing each side of the steps. There is a log newel with a conical top at the foot of the steps on the right side and at the foot and head on the left side. There is a log top and bottom railing on each side. The railing on the right side has a log baluster in the center with a diagonal log on each side.

The log steps from the lobby to the sun room are enclosed in the southwest corner of the lobby. There are seven steps extending down to a landing and offset to the left, then extending three steps to the sun room. There is an aluminium handrail on each side of the steps. There is a log railing extending around the opening between the lobby and the sun room. There are log posts with conical tops that have long top and bottom railing extending between them. Between the posts there is a log baluster with log cross-bracing forming two panels between each post.

Eight open-string steps lead down from the lobby to the dining

room. The log steps have rubber treads. Each side of the steps there is a log railing extending between a log newel at the top and bottom. The top of the newels extend above the railing and have conical tops. There are log balusters with diagonal logs between the balusters. There is a log railing in the center of the steps that has a top railing only. There is an enclosed stairway leading from the exterior at the loading dock to the basement, which has thirteen stone steps and an iron pipe handrail one side.

3. Flooring: Very narrow board oak flooring in the sun room and dining room, the dining room covered with carpet; very narrow board pine flooring in the recreation room and post office; carpet in the lobby, curio shop and accounting offices; quarry tile in kitchen; vinyl asphalt tile in saloon, toilets, and buffeteria.

4. Walls and Ceiling Finish: Peeled logs and coursed rubble stone in lobby, dining room, sun room and recreation room walls; horizontal V-grooved, tongue-and-groove boards on saloon, post office, accounting offices and curio shop walls; gypsum board, painted white, on kitchen and toilet walls; vinyl wall fabric with simulated wood wainscoting in the buffeteria.

Exposed log structure and wooden sheathing ceilings in dining room, lobby and recreation room; V-grooved, tongue-and-groove wooden board ceilings in curio shop, post office, accounting office, saloon, and suspended acoustical tile ceiling in buffeteria.

Partitions at the registration area have vertical wooden panels with engaged pilasters at the corners. The pilaster is capped with a simple wooden cap. Along the top of the partition there is a recessed panel with a moulding at the top and bottom. The recessed panel has Indian motifs painted on it. Along the line of the moulding across the pilaster there are also painted simple Indian motifs. There is a small, half-round milled log chair-rail.

There are Indian motifs painted on the bottom chords of the trusses. A wooden panel inset in the west gable end of the dining room has a large Indian motif painted on it. On each side of the doorway from the lobby to the dining room there is an Indian motif carved into a large stone.

5. Doorways and Doors: Flush, vertical wooden board doors with wooden surrounds. A double doorway from the lobby to the recreation room has a pair of wooden six-light French doors, and wooden surrounds. There is a large log head between the

doors and a six-light transom above. Wooden doors from the dining room to the kitchen have stainless steel panels on the lower portion. There is a wooden Dutch door, with a wooden shelf, in the post office.

6. Decorative Features, Trim and Cabinet Work: There are wrought iron curtain rods across the windows in the sun room and recreation room. There are decorative brackets on each end and the center bracket has a highly decorative Indian motif.

7. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Heating: Gas-fired, steam boiler with radiators.

b. Electrical: There are three large hanging light fixtures along the center line of the north-south axis of the sun room. The large round fixture is suspended from five chains. The circular form is divided into five parts, with a serpent-like arm projecting from each holding a single light bulb. The light bulb is held in a yellow flower-like cup supported by a six-petal bracket painted red. Each of the five segments has a metal banding with a crenelated top and cut-out leaf patterns, and an amber plastic material on the inside of the banding. The underneath side of the fixture has a decorative motif formed by small metal bands. There is a red-painted circle with a yellow-painted cinquefoil ending in a cusp at each segment. The space between the circle and the cinquefoil has closely spaced black bands forming a hatching. In the center there is a smaller circle divided by four arch-like bands, painted green. There are straight black bands forming other geometric patterns on the underneath side. There are five light bulbs inside shining light down from the bottom. The bottom is also covered with an amber, plastic material, simulating stained glass.

There are four wall sconces in the sun room, one each side of the doorways to the terraces. The shade on the sconce is mask-like with antennae projecting from a red-painted circle which has a Greek cross in the center. All the metal bands are painted variously, red, black, and green and there is an amber plastic material simulating stained glass. The single light bulb extends from the wall on an ell-shaped bracket.

In the dining room there are four large hanging lighting fixtures, between each truss. The fixtures are suspended by a long chain to a plate with a flower-like ornament on top. From this ornament four chains splay out to an

octagonal lantern framed with black wrought iron straps. There is an amber plastic material enclosing the lantern. Near the top one-third of each face of the octagon there is a red arch with a stylized butterfly in the center. Suspended from the octagon is a large round wheel with twenty light bulbs spaced around the top. An Indian motif is painted on the wheel at the base of each bulb. Four metal brackets, which are stepped and end with a curl, extend from the bottom of the wheel. A pendant, which is an Indian motif, is suspended from the center of the fixture. At the top of each joint of the octagon face there is a metal flower, painted yellow.

There are eight wall fixtures in the dining room. A small tubular arm extends from a wall plate, which has red and black Indian motifs, to a serpent-like bracket supporting a single light bulb. There is a small parchment shade, which has red and black Indian motifs painted on, clipped to the top of the light bulb.

There are wall bracket fixtures in the lobby, one each side of the doorway to the dining room and the doorway to the recreation room. A metal plate extends from a wall plate, in candelabrum-style, with three bare light bulbs. Each bulb is held in a wrought iron cup painted red with a white border. The round wall plate is painted with Indian motifs in black, red, and yellow.

There are six hanging lighting fixtures in the lobby, hung from long chains which extend to a metal diamond-shaped bracket. From the bracket six chains splay out to a black wrought iron hexagonal frame, that has amber plastic material panels. Six bracket arms extend out about three-quarters the way from the top, with a metal round base. The top edge of the base is saw-toothed. A metal cup above each base, which is painted red with white banding at the top, holds a bare light bulb. The arm bracket is stepped twice with saw-teeth on each step. A small metal rod extends from the hexagonal frame through the arm bracket. At the top and bottom of each hexagonal face, extending above and below, there is an Indian motif painted red and black and a "T" is cut out in the center of each face. There are radiating black straps on the underneath face of the hexagonal frame, with an amber plastic material simulating stained glass. A small Indian motif pendant hangs from the center of the bottom panel. There is a painted plate on the ceiling beam from which the chain hangs.

There are four large, round lighting fixtures hanging between trusses in the recreation room. The fixture is a large iron wheel with four radiating spokes on the bottom, and an amber plastic shade. Twelve arm brackets extend from wheel. There is an Indian motif pendant hanging from the center of the underneath side. The entire fixture is suspended from a long chain to a round plate that has a cup-like ornament on top, with four chains splaying to the wheel.

There are six wall fixtures in the recreation room, three on each side. There is a goat head-like shade on the face with a bare lightbulb behind. The horns on the shade are painted black with the frame around the head painted red, black and green. The shade has an amber plastic covering. A black wrought iron cup holds the light bulb, which extends from a square wall bracket painted red and black.

Fluorescent lighting fixtures are in the kitchen, buffeteria, toilets, accounting offices and curio shops.

There are white opal glass shades on the ceiling-mounted lighting fixtures in the saloon.

Along the west verandah there are square, black wrought iron wall fixtures, with amber crinkle glass panels. The east verandah has similar fixtures, except that they are ceiling hung.

Hanging from the gabled ceiling at the main entrance is a large black, wrought iron hexagonal lighting fixture, with amber glass panels. On each side of the entrance, on the exterior face, there is a large hexagonal black wrought iron lighting fixture. The frame is ornamented with polychrome Indian motifs and has amber glass panels.

There is a large black wrought iron lighting fixture on top of a stone pilaster at the entrance to the service yard. The fixture has four curved bracket legs tapering out toward the top forming a hexagon. There is a band and curve at the top. There are no glass panels.

c. Plumbing: Modern plumbing fixtures.

D. Site

1. **General Setting and Orientation:** The lodge sits on the edge of the canyon at the end of the main road into the park,

facing north. There are deluxe cabins on the east side and standard (budget) cabins on the west side. An asphalt circular drive is on the north side with a small landscaped yard in the center of the circle. On the west side, at the end of the verandah there is a short stone retaining wall that curves out toward the east. This is the entrance to the service yard, which is below the main floor level. The service yard is enclosed on the north and west by a stone wall, set between massive stone pilasters. To the west of the service yard wall is the transformer pad and the refrigeration equipment condensers. The land slopes off sharply on the west and has natural vegetation of locust, scrub oak and shrubs. On the east side there are numerous ponderosa pine trees. From the east terrace there is an asphalt path leading down numerous steps to the view points of the canyon. On the path below the east terrace, which is a very large stone retaining wall, there are eighteen stone steps curving up to the "Moon Room". There is a large asphalt parking lot to the northeast of the lodge, beyond the deluxe cabins.

Part II, Architectural Information, prepared by:
John P. White, Project Supervisor
July, 1982

III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

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IV. PROJECT INFORMATION:

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of the National Park Service, Western Region, under the direction of Marjorie Baer, Historian, during the summer of 1982. The Historic American Buildings Survey field office was located at the North Rim, Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona. The Project Supervisor was John P. White (Associate Professor of Architecture, Texas Tech University); team members were Architects Linda Kay Heinrich (Virginia Tech); Paula Beth Miller (Virginia Tech); and Student Architect Deborah Rehn Hurst (Washington University, St. Louis). Architectural information was supplied by John P. White, Project Supervisor. Historical information was compiled by Michael McCarthy, Student Intern (University of San Francisco) in October 1987.